



UNAIDS
JOINT UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ON HIV/AIDS

UNHCR
UNICEF
WFP
UNDP
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UNODC
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Haiti
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Country Situation

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Coordination of the AIDS response is under the direction of the Ministry of Health, although there are plans to have the national programme under the Office of the Prime Minister following the elaboration and signing of a National Multisectoral Response for AIDS by the Prime Minister in 2007.

Civil society involvement is strong and continues to provide service in areas that would normally be undertaken by the government dating from the time of weakened government capacity during the political upheavals of the last decade.

Donor support for AIDS is primarily through PEPFAR and the Global Fund.

The shift toward multisectorality is accompanied by a government move toward greater decentralization, as shown by the participatory planning exercise carried out at sub-national level for the health sector. Government budget allocation is still low for this effort, and this has been discussed in multilateral forums.

UN partners have raised the profile of women, young people and other vulnerable or at-risk groups through sustained action and support to bring the issues to the attention and action of partners. A few examples: a Coalition of Haitian Women, mostly senior status, was established with the support of the Ministry of Women's Condition and Rights. Through UN joint action, a successful vaccination campaign organized by UNICEF, WHO and MINUSTAH provided an entry point for opportunities to scale-up prevention of mother to child services in 2008.

Service coverage continues to increase with the strong support provided through both PEPFAR and the Global Fund. According to the UNGASS 2007 report, there are nearly twice the number of people on ART at the end of 2007 as there were at the end of 2006 (2007: 7765 females, 5821 males; 2006: 4942 females, 3854 males).

Stigma, gender and weak institutional structures remain major barriers. The government is reviewing a 2005 decree that improves the legal protection against discrimination for people living with HIV.

In the new UN Development Assistance Framework that is under development, the strategy of the UN Country Team is to integrate HIV in a cross-cutting approach for the primary goals of improving social injustice and inequities, mitigation of human and economic vulnerability, and respect of human rights. The mandate of the UN Integrated Peace Keeping Mission ("MINUSTAH") has been extended for two more years, providing further opportunities for collaboration on joint UN initiatives.

Towards the end of the year, a strategic approach to engage key ministries other than the Ministry of Health (Justice, Youth and Sports, Women, Social Affairs and Education) was

initiated. These ministries were made aware of the existing multisectoral plan, and encouraged to develop and budget plans aligning their areas of action to the national perspective.

UNAIDS Support to the National Response

UNAIDS activities at country level during 2007

The UN Joint team for the AIDS response was established and operational in 2007. Activities included:

- ▶ Advocacy to promote the "Three Ones" principles.
- ▶ Support for people living with HIV and civil society.
- ▶ Continuing support of the Country Coordinating Mechanism for the Global Fund.
- ▶ Technical support and contribution for the elaboration of the UN General Assembly Special Session on AIDS report, 2007.
- ▶ Accelerated action and technical support for targeting key ministries to plan, budget and align their activities with the national perspective of the multisectoral plan.
- ▶ Joint UN action to mark World AIDS Day.
- ▶ Joint planning retreats of the UN team leading to greater strategic partnerships.
- ▶ Joint UN action for increased learning about HIV by UN focal points for HIV

UNAIDS achievements at country level during 2007

National strategic and operational planning

The UN team targeted five key ministries at the highest political level to develop, budget and align their activities for the AIDS response to the national multisectoral plan. Each ministry undertook to plan for 2 or 3 key results that would reflect attention for AIDS internally for their ministries and to support their areas of responsibility within the nationally-defined perspective. Sensitization was done in a series of informational and skill-building sessions to enable ministries to understand the dynamics of the epidemic and where it concerns them, and to think about what activities they can therefore implement in support.

Mainstreaming

In the development of the second-generation poverty reduction strategy, AIDS has been treated as an integral component that goes across multiple sectors. With the support of the World Bank, UNDP and UNAIDS, mainstreaming of AIDS was a key activity.

The UN family also integrated AIDS as a cross-cutting issue and not as a stand alone result for the next five-year UN Development Assistance Framework.